

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 11, replace the paragraph at lines 24-29 with the following replacement paragraph:

--Additional methods of generating competent cells are described in: Kushner, In: *Genetic Engineering: Proceedings of the International Symposium on Genetic Engineering*, Elsevier, Amsterdam, pp. 17-23 (1978); Norgard, et al., Gene 3: 279-292 (1978); Jessee, et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,981,797; and at ~~http://www.~~ on the World Wide Web at “protocol-online.net/molbio/DNA/transformation.html,” the entireties of which are incorporated by reference herein.--